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December 1, 1999

Document Management Branch (HFA-305) Food and Drug Administration 5630 Fishers Lane, Room 106 1 Rockville, MD 20852

RE: Docl

Docket No: 97N-484S

Regulation of Allograft Materials

I am writing to disagree with the proposal of regulation of bone allograft material by the FDA. The bone grafts that we have used over the years have been an excellent resource for patients, and vary significantly, in size, shape and type of graft for a variety of orthopaedic applications. I do not feel that FDA assessment and clinical trials and regulatory documentation is appropriate for these bone graft substitutes that are tissue and not a device.

Sincerely, Juan M. Awark M.D.

Susan M. Swank, M.D.

Medical Director

97N-4845

C/00



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